

Remarks

Claims 1-40 were presented for Examination. The Examiner rejected claims 1-9 and 14-40, and indicated that claims 10-13 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this amendment, claims 1, 4 and 11 have been amended, and claims 10 and 14-40 have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-9, and 11-13 remain in this application.

The examiner indicated that the title is not descriptive. Applicant has amended the title to comport to the claims as amended.

Applicant has amended the specification to update its reference to its parent application.

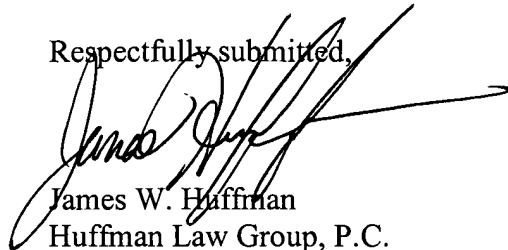
The examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 USC §112 as being indefinite. Applicant has amended claim 4 as suggested by the examiner.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 10-13. Rather than rewriting claim 10 to incorporate the limitations of claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 10, and claim 10 has been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-9, and 11-13 are in condition for allowance.

The examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-9 and 14-40 under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Goodnow et al (Goodnow), U.S. Patent No. 6,140,836. Applicant has canceled the claims to which this rejection applies thereby rendering this rejection moot. However, applicant would like to point out that the examiner's rejection was confusing. That is, a patent to Goodnow was issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,167,524 NOT 6,140,836. US Patent No. 6,140,836, upon which the Examiner based his rejection of these claims, was issued to Fujii et al. (Fujii) and is entitled "Self-timed pipelined datapath system and asynchronous signal control circuit". Applicant has examined Fujii and does not believe that it relates to the present application. Further, applicant has examined the Goodnow patent 6,167,524 and believes that it does not teach, hint or even suggest the claims as originally presented in this application, including the claims canceled by this amendment. However, applicant prefers to place this case in condition for allowance, and pursue the canceled claims by way of a continuation application.

In view of the foregoing amendments, applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance and such allowance is requested. Applicant earnestly requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone if the Examiner has any questions or suggestions concerning this amendment, the application, or allowance of any claims thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 2-7-05

"EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EO 00393636515 Date of Deposit 2-9-05
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